

ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH

PARISH PRIEST: FR. SHANTHAIAH MARNENI

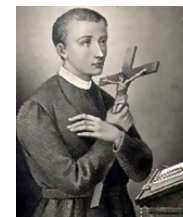
Parish Phone: 9792 4422 **Email:** dandenongnorth@cam.org.au **Address:** 71 Gladstone Road, Dandenong North, Victoria, 3175

Website: www.stgerards.org.au **Facebook:** facebook.com/saintgerardparish

Confession: Tuesday to Saturday 8:20am-8:50am also Saturday prior to & after Mass until 10:30am *Visit website for updates*

Parish Secretary & Safeguarding Officer: Sumitha Moses **Parish Secretary:** Sinthia Stellato **Office Hours:** Monday to Friday 9:00am - 2:30pm

Principal of St. Gerard's Catholic School: Mr. Paul Cowan **School Phone:** 9791 7553 **School Email:** principal @sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au



Welcome to St. Gerard's parish, where we foster the wellbeing and safety of all children and adults at risk. Since we take the safety of our young and vulnerable parishioners seriously, we have a zero tolerance policy when it comes to abuse. All parishioners have the right to feel safe and welcome. If you have any concerns, visit <https://www.stgerards.org.au/child-safety-professional-standards/> or see the Safeguarding Officer. "Child Safety is Everyone's Responsibility"

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Mass Readings (Year A) - July 19, 2026

Entrance Antiphon: See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to You with willing heart, and praise Your name, O Lord, for it is good.

First Reading - Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

There is no god, other than you, who cares for every thing, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, You are good and forgiving.

Second Reading - Romans 8:26-27

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; You have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. **Alleluia!**

Gospel Reading - Matthew 13:24-43

Jesus put another parable before the crowds: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn.'" He put another parable before them: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.' He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.' In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfil the prophecy: I will speak to you in parables and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world. Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Communion Antiphon: The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, has made a memorial of His wonders; He gives food to those who fear Him.

Prayer to Saint Gerard Majella



Great protector of the family, Saint Gerard, we ask your prayers for all parents, that they may receive the grace to live in the love of God and bring up their children to know and love Him with all their hearts. We ask you to pray also that those who take the lives of unborn innocents, and attack the dignity of motherhood, may come to see the error of their ways, and that all may value the true holiness of Christian family life. God, our loving Father, Your love gives life to the world. Bless and make holy all human love, especially the life-giving love of husband and wife. May Your love fill the hearts and homes of all families, so that the world may enjoy the peace and happiness promised by Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Persecution & Faith: A Witness of Courage and Forgiveness from Pakistan - Twenty-year-old Akash Bashir was serving as a volunteer security guard at his parish in Lahore, Pakistan, when a terrorist with explosives tried to enter the church. Akash said, "I would rather die than let you in," and then gave his life to prevent a massacre. In the years since, his parents have offered an extraordinary witness of Christian faith. Asked whether they had forgiven those responsible for their son's death, they replied: "Yes, we have forgiven them and pray that they may find the right path to God."



Their example reminds us that the Gospel calls us not only to courage, but also to forgiveness. Reflection: Where may God be asking you to make a sacrifice out of love, or to forgive an injustice against you? Read more testimonies of faith from *Aid to the Church in Need* at: aidtochurch.org/welcome

Rest, receive and discover anew the heart of the Gospel, on Sunday, July 26 at St. Christopher's Parish, Syndal.

We all want to know that we belong, to be known, loved, and part of something bigger than ourselves. Join young adults from across the Archdiocese of Melbourne for an evening of good food, meaningful conversation with a guest speaker, prayer and community. At *Cordis* find new friends, explore your faith and encounter God in a new and real way. Whether you are involved as a youth leader, someone looking to grow in your faith or simply searching for a place to belong, you are very welcome here. Come as you are. Open to young adults 18 years and over.

Visit <https://youth.melbournecatholic.org/events/cordis-july-2026> to register.

"IS THERE DIVERSITY IN CHAPLAINCY?" DISCOVER MORE ... A webinar in two parts 23 July & 30 July 7.00-8.30pm. During these two webinars, experienced Chaplains will explore their varied roles and discuss the broad scope of their ministry. Organised by The Association of Pastoral Ministry Leaders Melbourne (APMLM) and Garratt's Publishing. Registration details available at www.garrattpublishing.com.au/event/is-there-diversity-in-chaplaincy-webinar-series/

Catholic Mission sincerely thanks the parish community of St Gerard's for your generous support of this year's Propagation of the Faith Appeal. As the Pope's Mission Agency, Catholic Mission is privileged to work with and strengthen the local Church in more than 160 countries and over 1,100 dioceses. Your contribution of \$6, 508.70 has been gratefully received and will help bring education, dignity and hope to children and families in Kampira, Malawi, through the construction of a new primary school and the ongoing mission of the local Church. Your generosity is far more than a financial gift. It is a tangible expression of this year's World Mission theme, "One in Christ, United in Mission," reminding our sisters and brothers in Malawi that they are not forgotten. Thank you for walking in mission with the Church in Malawi.

Please note: Fr. Shanthaiah will be unavailable to hear confessions on Thursday, 23rd July and Thursday, 30th July as he is saying Mass at Nazareth College. Thank you for your understanding.

Caritas Australia Ukraine Emergency Appeal - Caritas Australia is urging the Australian community not to look away as the war in Ukraine continues for a fifth straight year. As violence escalates in other parts of the world, Ukraine is slipping from headlines, but for millions of people the suffering has not stopped. In 2026, an estimated 10.8 million people in Ukraine will require humanitarian assistance. Caritas Australia's local partners in Ukraine are providing emergency shelter, water, food assistance, psychosocial support and cash assistance to displaced families. Learn more or make a donation today at www.caritas.org.au/ukraine

Altar Server Training will resume on Thursday 23rd July at 5:30pm. Please contact Ron Maroun on 0412 212 287 with any queries.

Eucharist Retreat - A 2-day Retreat for Children and Teens (ages 5 - 15)
Date and Time: August 22 and 23, 2026. Saturday and Sunday 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM.
Venue: Holy Family Church, 100 Power Road, Doveton. For parents who wish to enrol their children to the retreat, please visit www.divinekids.com.au

Peter's Pence Collection was taken up last weekend. Our parish raised \$799.25. Thank you for your generosity.

MASS and INTENTIONS

Saturday Vigil, July 18 - Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm Joelle Lebrasse, Nadege Atchia and Hans Vydilingum
(*Remembrance* ✙)

and Repose of the soul of Rani Fernando (*Recently Deceased* ✙)

and Mass of Thanksgiving - Amanda Collins

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, July 19 - Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Claude Isaacs (*Remembrance* ✙)

and Hayden Tailor (*Death Anniversary* ✙)

and Fiore Mete (*Remembrance* ✙) and for the souls in Purgatory

and Milagros A. Reyes (*First Death Anniversary* ✙)

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo - No Mass Intentions

Mass 3:00pm French Community

Mass 5:30pm Margaret Marmion (*Death Anniversary* ✙)

and Thanksgiving on the birthday of Maria Martha De Souza

Monday, July 20

Mass 9:15am Josephine Binny (*First Death Anniversary* ✙)

and For the health of Karen and Hermione Daniells

Tuesday, July 21

Mass 9:15am Antonette Vettivelu (*Birthday Remembrance* ✙)

and Thanksgiving on the Birthday of Sumitha Moses

and Marco Pradel (*13th Death Anniversary* ✙)

and Rosalia Imbriano (*34th Death Anniversary/Remembrance* ✙)

Wednesday, July 22 - Saint Mary Magdalene

Mass 9:15am Repose of the soul of Mary Petersen (*2nd Death Anniversary* ✙)

and Thanksgiving on the birthday of Philomena Panicker

Thursday, July 23 - No Confessions this morning

Mass 9:15am For a private Intention

and For the holy souls of Dennis Lobo and Bridghet Lobo ✙

and for the deliverance for the souls in Purgatory

Friday, July 24

Mass 9:15am Thanksgiving on the Birthday of Christine De Silva

and Anniversary of Fr. Michael Shadbolt's Ordination to the Priesthood

and Anthony Joseph Domingo (*Death Anniversary* ✙)

and Thanksgiving in honour of St. Charbel Maklout and St. Christine of Bolsena

and Beverley Deabe (*Birthday Remembrance* ✙)

Saturday, July 25 - Saint James

Mass 9:15am Jean-Claude Dedans, Jean Loup Gontran & Roger Christophe
(*Remembrance* ✙)

Saturday Vigil, July 25 - Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm Mass of Thanksgiving - Brandon Collins

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, July 26 - Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Anthony Maurice Domingo (*Birthday Remembrance* ✙)

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo - No Mass Intentions

Mass 5:30pm Bruno Lebrasse, Joelle Lebrasse, Nadege Atchia & Hans Vydilingum (*Remembrance* ✙)

Please pray for...

Our sick: Fr Brendan Lane, Maria Tomaselli, Ricky Fagan, Anne Moorthy, Lynette Whetton, Lucia, Gration Vettivelu, Gabby Vettivelu, John Keble, Pamela Chen, Michael Bruno, Steven Dickson, Derek Chater, Franca Rechichi, Marion Quyn, David Naidoo, Barbara Daniells, Jackie Foulstone, Sean VanTwist, Damien Gerard Misquith, Christopher Patterson, Gerard, Lovett & Frances Dos Remedios, Marie Thomas, Rosalie Wright, Michael DePenha, Antonimary, Margaret Rose Rochecouste

The recently deceased:

Reverend Brother C.D. Michael (MSFS), Martin Weller, Sylvio Durand, Fr Tad Ziolkowski, Rani Fernando

Anniversaries/Remembrances:

Gertrude & Edward Baldsing, Helen Watts, Maive Meerwald, Wally Nicholas, Fiore Mete, Milagros Reyes

Church Cleaning

Saturday, July 25

Frank, Zenon, Betty, Robert & Kim

Saturday, August 1st

Mulipola Family

Weekly Collection

July 12, 2026

Thanksgiving: \$1,433.00

Presbytery: \$701.00

Reading Roster

Saturday, July 25

5:30pm D. Franklin

Sunday, July 26

8:30am C. Becerra

10:30am S. Moses

5:30pm Janet D'Souza

Saturday, August 1

5:30pm J. D'Souza

Sunday, August 2

8:30am I. Mulipola

10:30am Catechists

5:30pm L. Hector

Daily Antiphons - Monday, July 20th to Saturday, July 25th, 2026

Monday of the Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time - July 20

Entrance Antiphon: See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to You with willing heart, and praise Your name, O Lord, for it is good.

Responsorial Psalm: To the upright I will show the saving power of God.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* If today you hear His voice, harden not your hearts. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, has made a memorial of His wonders; He gives food to those who fear Him.

Tuesday of the Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time - July 21

Entrance Antiphon: See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to You with willing heart, and praise Your name, O Lord, for it is good.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, show us Your mercy and love.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* All who love Me will keep My words, and My Father will love them, and We will come to them. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, has made a memorial of His wonders; He gives food to those who fear Him.

Wednesday of the Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time - July 22 - Saint Mary Magdalene

Entrance Antiphon: The Lord said to Mary Magdalene: Go to My brothers and tell them: I am going to My Father and your Father, to My God and your God.

Responsorial Psalm: My soul is thirsting for You, O Lord, my God.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Tell us Mary, what did you see on the way? I saw the glory of the risen Christ, I saw His empty tomb. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: The love of Christ impels us, so that those who live may live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and was raised.

Thursday of the Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time - July 23

Entrance Antiphon: See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to You with willing heart, and praise Your name, O Lord, for it is good.

Responsorial Psalm: You are the source of life, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Blessed are You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; You have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, has made a memorial of His wonders; He gives food to those who fear Him.

Friday of the Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time - July 24

Entrance Antiphon: See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to You with willing heart, and praise Your name, O Lord, for it is good.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord will guard us, like a shepherd guarding his flock.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Happy are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, has made a memorial of His wonders; He gives food to those who fear Him.

Saturday of the Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time - July 25 - Saint James

Entrance Antiphon: As He walked by the Sea of Galilee, Jesus saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother mending their nets and He called them.

Responsorial Psalm: Those who sow in tears, shall reap with shouts of joy.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord, to go out and bear fruit that will last. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: They drank the chalice of the Lord, and became the friends of God.